



New Hampshire Fish and Game Department

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Glenn Normandeau
Executive Director

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**OFFICE OF ENERGY
AND PLANNING**

April 5, 2012

Joanne Morin, Chair
Council on Resources and Development
NH Office of Energy & Planning
Governor Hugh J. Gallen State Office Park
Johnson Hall, 3rd Floor
107 Pleasant Street
Concord, NH 03301

Dear Ms. Morin,

I am writing to elaborate on the parking needs of the proposed boat ramp at the Wild Goose site that is currently under review by CORD. Apparently there is some concern that the current plan of 31 trailer spots and 12 cartop spots may be an "overuse" of the property.

Sunapee is the sixth largest lake in New Hampshire. Because of the depth and time constraints on the ramp at the State Beach (the only other state access on Sunapee), there is enormous pent up demand for boat access by people who are not residents of the towns that border the lake (the town ramps are generally open for use by nonresidents but there is no nonresident parking available for vehicles and trailers). Given the 22 year fight to build this access site for the public, Fish & Game assumes it will likely be the only one we will ever get constructed on Sunapee, in spite of the fact that the 1991 Public Access Plan produced by the NH Office of State Planning says there should be several more. Therefore, the Wild Goose plan tries to reasonably maximize parking so that as many of the public as possible may utilize the site at any one time. It is the public's lake and it will be the public's launch. We cannot see any benefit to the state or the public by not constructing the project to its full potential so long as it can be done in a manner that does not negatively affect the lake. It is clear from our experience with Winnisquam, Squam, Newfound, and others that we can expect capacity use of the site on weekends, holidays, and summer vacation periods. Restriction of parking spots is just a way to restrict the public's use of their lake.

Thank you for considering this information in your deliberations. I expect to be at that meeting should you have questions.

Sincerely,

Glenn Normandeau, Executive Director
NH Fish & Game Department

GN/th:

cc: Allen Brooks, AG's Office
Greg Smith, McLane Law Firm
Justin Richards, Upton & Hatfield Law Firm